SHRI I.D. SWAMI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, in addition to using diplomatic channels, we have also become more vigilant on the border. As a result of the recommendations of the Group of Ministers a task force which was appointed by them, the border management has separately been taken up and a Border Management Division in the Ministry of Home Affairs has also been created under the supervision of a Secretary level officer. We have also utlised highly sophisticated equipment on the border. The gap between outposts has also been reduced. The number of towers has also been increased. We are also enrolling more number of battalions on the BSF side. All those actions are being taken. As has been pointed out in the earlier question, in the first phase, fencing of about 1000 kms. has been done. In the second phase, by 2007 all the fencing as well as road building along the border of Bangladesh will be completed. More than Rs. 1330 crores have already been earmarked by the Government for fencing and road building activities and getting the border almost foolproof so that these activities do not come to India from Bangladesh border.

Ghatkopar blast case

*131. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Sayyed Yunus Khwaja, one of the accused in Ghatkopar blast case, escaped from police custody;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken against the officials responsible and the present status of the case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On January 7, 2003, Sayyed Yunus Khwaja, one of the accused in Ghatkopar blast case, was being taken to Aurangabad for investigation by Police in a police jeep which met with a minor accident at Jategaon Ghat near Supa, district Ahamadnagar. Taking advantage of this situation, Sayyed Yunus Khwaja managed to escape from the police custody.

(c) The concerned policemen have been placed under suspension and a departmental enquiry has been initiated against them. Mumbai Police is investigating the blast case.

श्री राजकुमार धूत: सभापति महोदय, घाटकोपर बम विस्फोट कांड के बाद पुलिस को ज्यादा मुस्तैद होना चाहिए था। मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहता हूं कि पुलिस व्यवस्था में ऐसी क्या कमियां रह गईं जिसके कारण अभियुक्त पुलिस हिरासत से भागने में सफल हो गया? आप पुलिस की कार्यशैली की ठीक करने के लिए क्या कदम उठा रहे हैं?

श्री सभापति: ठीक है। आपने क्वेश्चन पूछ लिया है। पुलिस की कार्यशैली की बात पर मत जाइये।

श्री राजकुमार धूत: सभापति महोदय, यह बहुत ही गंभीर मामला है। इतना बड़ा आरोपी भाग गया और उसको पकड़ने में आज तक पुलिस नाकामयाब हुई है। यह सब भ्रष्टाचार की वजह से हुआ है। मैं सेन्ट्रल गवर्नमेंट से रिक्वेस्ट करुंगा कि वह इस मामले पर जरूर ध्यान दे।

श्री हरिन पाठक: सभापति महोदय, सदन के सभी सदस्यों को पता है कि इस मामले का इन्वेस्टीगेशन पुलिस कर रही है। यह राज्य सरकार से संबंधित विषय है।

श्री सभापति: इसकी उनको जानकारी नहीं होगी। आप उनको बता दीजिए।

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: An investigation is going on. The case is pending with the State Government and it is investigating into this matter.

श्री राजकुमार धूत: सभापति महोदय, मेरा दूसरा सप्लीमेंट क्वेश्चन है। 27 जनवरी के बाद से पुलिस ने हाई अलर्ट कर दिया, लेकिन उसके बावजूद भी एक और हादसा हो गया, जिसमें 27 लोग घायल हो गये हैं। इसके बारे में भी केन्द्र सरकार को राज्य सरकार से जानकारी लेनी चाहिए कि ऐसा क्यों हो रहा है?

MR, CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WIRTTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Keeping of endangered animals in farm-houses

*122. SHRI RAJU PARMAR:
SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:
Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Python catch at hotelier's farm-house" which appeared in the Hindustan Times, New Delhi on the 10th January, 2003;